

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

DANIEL R. CHAVEZ,

Plaintiff,

vs.

No. CV 20-00387 KWR/JFR

MICHELLE LUJAN-GRISHAM, and  
METROPOLITAN DETENTION CENTER,

Defendants.

**MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER OF DISMISSAL**

THIS MATTER is before the Court under Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) on the Civil Rights Complaint filed by Plaintiff Daniel R. Chavez (Doc. 1). Plaintiff has failed to obey a Court Order and failed to prosecute this action. The Court will dismiss the Complaint without prejudice under Rule 41(b).

Plaintiff was a detainee at the Metropolitan Detention Center (“MDC”). On April 22, 2020, Plaintiff filed a letter complaint based on MDC’s alleged failure to provide COVID-19 testing and safety equipment. (Doc. 1). The pleading was signed by 21 detainees. It did not name a single individual subject to suit and the Court could not discern the details of Plaintiff’s housing arrangements or whether Plaintiff is at greater risk of COVID-19 complications due to Plaintiff’s health.


By Order entered April 28, 2020, the Court directed Plaintiff to cure the deficiencies in the Complaint and gave Plaintiff the opportunity to refile the Complaint and allege individualized facts explaining why his conditions of confinement are unconstitutional. (Doc. 2). The Order provided Plaintiff forms and instructions to refile. The Order also directed Plaintiff to either prepay the

\$400 filing fee or, alternatively, submit an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. § 1915. (Doc. 2).

The deadline for Plaintiff to cure the deficiencies was May 28, 2020. (Doc. 2 at 2). The Order warned Plaintiff that the failure to timely address the filing fee and refile an individual civil rights complaint could result in dismissal of this case without further notice. (Doc. 2). Plaintiff did not comply with or otherwise respond to the Order. Instead, the Court's mail to Plaintiff was returned as undeliverable. (Doc. 3, 4). The Court then issued an Order to Show Cause on May 11, 2020, directing Plaintiff to provide a current address or otherwise show cause why the case should not be dismissed within 30 days. (Doc. 5).

More than 30 days has elapsed and Plaintiff has not provided the Court with a current address, shown cause, or otherwise communicated with the Court. Accordingly, the Court will dismiss this action pursuant to Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for failure to comply with Court orders and failure to prosecute. *See Olsen v. Mapes*, 333 F.3d 1199, 1204, n. 3 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003) ("Rule 41(b) . . . has long been interpreted to permit courts to dismiss actions sua sponte for a plaintiff's failure to prosecute or comply with the . . . court's orders.") This dismissal is without prejudice to refiling a new action.

**IT IS ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Civil Rights Complaint (Doc. 1) is **DISMISSED without prejudice** under Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) and the Court will enter a separate judgment closing this civil case.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KEA W. RIGGS  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE